

HUNTINGDON POST OFFICE CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on June 17, the Huntingdon Post Office, located in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, in Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District, will be celebrating its 100-year anniversary.

The post office, the first established in Huntingdon County, dates back to 1798 during a time when mail was delivered by post riders and stagecoaches.

In 1915, to accommodate the growing business needs of Huntingdon, then Pennsylvania Governor Martin Brumbaugh dedicated a building on Washington Street to house the post office, the Internal Revenue Service, and military recruiting offices. Since then, the post office on Washington Street has become a permanent fixture within the growing Juniata River community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Huntingdon County Post Office and all of its employees on 100 years of dedicated community service.

#### CLIMATE CHANGE AND HEALTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. QUIGLEY) for 5 minutes.

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, the sciences and the facts don't lie. Congress has stood here for too long debating the truth about climate change. What is there to debate?

More than 12,000 peer-reviewed scientific studies are in agreement. Climate change is real, and humans are significantly to blame. For those of you keeping track at home, there are zero peer-reviewed scientific studies that state the opposite.

As we continue to harm the environment, we are ultimately hurting ourselves and human health. In the movie "Birdman," it was written: "A thing is a thing, not what is said of that thing."

I feel the need to remind my colleagues that climate change is a real thing, regardless of what is said of that climate change thing; just because you don't want to believe it doesn't make climate change any less real. It is rapidly becoming a threatening crisis in public health. As the planet warms, sea levels rise and lead to increased floods. Droughts are more frequent and intense. Heat waves and hurricanes are more severe.

Climate change makes existing diseases and conditions worse, but it also helps introduce new pests and pathogens into communities. Respiratory allergies and diseases are becoming more prevalent because of increased pollen, molds, air pollution, and dust. Higher concentrations of these particles in the air cause severe breathing problems and lead to heart disease, asthma attacks, inflammation, and lung cancer.

Every year, 220,000 people learn they have lung cancer, and 160,000 people die from lung cancer. That is twice the

population size of my own neighborhood, Lakeview.

Children who are especially vulnerable to these pollutants are harmed by the air they breathe. Their lungs shouldn't be at risk when they go outside to play or walk to school, but asthma is the third leading cause of hospitalization among children under the age of 15.

Nearly half of this Nation—our Nation—lives in areas with dangerous levels of pollution, 44 percent. My own district is included. Chicago earned itself an F in an air quality study from the American Lung Association.

According to the same study, the Windy City is ranked in the bottom 5 percent for most polluted city in terms of short-term particle pollution in the Nation, and it is only getting worse. Not only is our air quality dangerous, but our most essential resource, which we all depend on, our water, is at risk due to climate change.

Water is vital to survival. As temperatures rise, people and animals need more water to maintain their health and thrive. Increases in water temperature, precipitation frequency and severity, and changes in coastal ecosystem health could increase the incidence of water contamination. Currently, more than 840,000 people die each year from water-related diseases. That is more than the entire city of San Francisco.

Climate change is expected to produce more frequent and severe extreme precipitation events worldwide. Over the past 50 years, the amount of rain falling during the most intense 1 percent of our storms increased by 20 percent. These turbulent changes breed outbreaks of waterborne diseases. In fact, in the United States, from 1948 to 1994, heavy rainfall correlated with more than half of the outbreaks of waterborne disease.

Water sustains our economy by producing energy at power plants, raising livestock, and growing food crops. Many water supply sources are already overallocated, and people are suffering from degraded water quality.

Given our current trajectory within the Western U.S. in severe drought, the competition for water resources will only increase, leading to great impacts on human health.

Albert Einstein once said: "We can't solve today's problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them." We need to adjust how we think about climate change. We need to understand that severe weather, pollution, and changes in our water are not only harmful to the planet, but harmful to the people who inhabit that planet.

Climate change is a direct threat to humanity, and it is time we reexamine how we think about it, talk about it, and respond to this growing problem. The health of humans worldwide is at stake.

#### CONGRATULATING CANON HUTCHESON

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FLEISCHMANN). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and celebrate my nephew, Canon Hutcheson, and his wife, Courtney, on the birth of their new daughter, their beautiful new daughter, Ella. Ella Brooke Hutcheson was born on June 9 in Warner Robins, Georgia. She weighed in at 8 pounds, 15½ ounces.

I know from experience, the experience of having been blessed with three sons, that parenthood is the most incredible and rewarding experience in the world. I could not be more excited for Canon and for Courtney and their new addition.

I would also like to congratulate Ella's grandparents: my sister, Cissie Hutcheson, and her husband, Craig, of Waycross, Georgia.

Canon was named in honor of my sister, Cissie, and my mother, Zena Cannon Carter, who was born on October 16, 1937, and passed on June 21, 2008. I know that my mother is very proud of her grandson and her namesake.

To the Hutcheson family, and especially to Ella, I wish you the very best, and I am so very proud to welcome a new member to our family.

□ 1030

#### PROFESSIONAL'S ACCESS TO HEALTH WORKFORCE INTEGRATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD) for 5 minutes.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Professional's Access to Health Workforce Integration Act, better known as the PATH Workforce Integration Act, of 2015.

The National Center for Health Workforce Analysis predicts that, by 2020, the United States will have a shortage of as high as 20,000 physicians. Other projections are that we will have a shortage of up to 250,000 public health workers. In addition, the Department of Labor projects that, by the year 2025, we will need 500,000 more nurses, 46,000 more mental and behavioral health workers, 38,000 more pharmacists, and 15,000 more dentists.

There are a number of contributing factors to the projected health care workforce shortage. The U.S. population by 2030 is expected to rise by 18 percent. The population of those over the age of 65 is expected to increase three times its current rate, and the Bureau of Health Professions projects a 5.2 percent increase in the utilization of health services. This is all happening while our current health care workforce is retiring in greater numbers than we are able to graduate new workers.